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The measures employed to combat the epidemic were isolation, disinfection, and the supplying of drinking water free from cholera germs.

The wells were considered the principal source of infection. More than 10,000 of these were disinfected in Cairo alone. Taps from which free drinking water could be obtained were temporarily constructed in all the infected districts of Cairo. In order to still further discourage the consumption of well water, fire engines were used to pump water from the Nile. In districts where this was done there was an almost immediate falling off in the number of cases. In the villages, artesian wells were bored and the water from them alone used. The disease in such places was checked almost immediately. It is also interesting to observe that the city of Tanta, which in previous epidemics has always had a large number of cases, was entirely free from the disease during this epidemic. The reason for this improved condition of affairs is ascribed to the fact that the water supply is derived from an artesian well which had been bored before the outbreak of the epidemic.

Persons afflicted with cholera were immediately taken to an isolation hospital. In Cairo a number of schools were used for hospitals. All fabrics found in the infected houses were taken to the disinfecting station and disinfected with steam. All containers for fluids were broken and new ones issued in their stead. These containers in Egypt usually consist of earthenware and it is not deemed practical to disinfect them. The floors of the houses were sprinkled with a 1 to 1,000 perchloride of mercury solution. The walls to a height of about 5 feet were treated in a similar manner. This was followed by whitewashing, with a freshly prepared solution of unslacked lime, the surfaces of which had been previously sprinkled with the mercury solution.

The wells were disinfected either with permanganate of potassium or lime solution, the principal object being to so discolor the water in the wells that the natives would not drink it. When those measures were not effective sulphuric acid was poured into the wells.

In the neighborhood of Cairo the Nile was patrolled by guards and vessels in order to prevent people from infecting it with dejecta or otherwise. The dead were wrapped in sheets saturated with perchloride of mercury solution.

I have to thank Sir Horace Pinching and his assistants for showing me about the disinfecting station and supplying me with the data contained in this report.

The SURGEON-GENERAL.

GERMANY.

BERLIN, January 8, 1903.

Consul-General Mason reports as follows: The death rate of Berlin for the week ended December 27, 1902, was somewhat higher than in the foregoing week, amounting to 16.7 per 1,000 inhabitants—considerably higher than for the corresponding week of the previous year, in which it only amounted to 15.1. In spite of this increase, however, only 2 of the large German cities showed in the Christmas week more favorable health conditions than Berlin, namely, Leipsig and Schöneberg (with 10.3 per 1,000 inhabitants). Dresden, Nüremberg, Charlottenburg (with 19.3), London, Munich, Stuttgart, Cologne, Hamburg, Königsberg, as well as Paris and Vienna, all had higher mortality rates than Berlin. The participation of children in their first year in the mortality was less than in the foregoing week, the increase in the

number of deaths being confined to the higher age classes. The mortality rate among infants fell from 4.7 to 4.4 per 1,000, being thereby only half that of Essen, Munich, and Stettin. There was no important change in the number of cases of acute diseases of the respiratory organs and acute intestinal diseases—the former causing 81, the latter 39 deaths. The statistics showed an important abatement of influenza, which caused during this week 10 deaths as compared with 16 in the foregoing week. Seventy-seven deaths were caused by consumption. Since the previous week, there was a slight increase in the number of cases of measles and diphtheria—the former causing 9, the latter 3 deaths. Scarlet fever claimed 5 victims, and 3 persons died by violence during the Christmas week.

Plague and cholera in various countries.

BERLIN, GERMANY, *January 10, 1903.*

Plague.

BRITISH INDIA.—In the Bombay presidency during the week ended December 13, there were registered 8,631 new plague cases and 6,544 deaths, of which 134 cases (128 deaths) occurred in the city of Bombay and 15 cases (10 deaths) in the town and port of Karachi.

QUEENSLAND.—During the week ended November 30, 1 death from plague was registered in Townsville.

Plague and cholera.

BRITISH INDIA.—In Calcutta during the week ended December 6, 25 persons died of plague and 51 died of cholera.

Cholera.

TURKEY.—According to the eighth official bulletin regarding cholera in Palestine, there were registered in Jaffa, between December 8 and December 14, 27 deaths from cholera; in Jerusalem, on December 11, 1 death; in Jericho, between December 6 and December 11, 6 deaths, and in 14 other districts of the Sandschack of Jerusalem, 993 deaths; in Amman, between December 8 and December 11, there were registered 15 deaths from cholera; at Salt and Adjilam, between December 3 and December 7, 8 deaths; at Acre, 13 deaths, and at Redjid, between December 4 and December 7, 17 deaths from cholera were recorded.

According to the ninth official bulletin of December 23, 43 more deaths from cholera were recorded, among which 10 occurred in Jaffa, 3 in Jericho, 3 in Ragheb, and 18 deaths in other districts; 5 deaths in Amman, between December 13 and December 21, and 4 in 2 districts of the Sandschack of Acre. The total number of deaths occurred in Palestine since the outbreak of the disease in October, 1902, amounted, according to the bulletin of December 23, to 3,407.

EGYPT.—During the period from December 9 to December 22, there were recorded, according to the official reports, in the whole of Egypt, 77 new cholera cases and 65 deaths.

DUTCH INDIA.—In Soerabaya, between November 16 and November 29, there were registered 87 fresh cholera cases and 55 deaths.

BERLIN, GERMANY, *January 8, 1903.*

GREAT BRITAIN.—The board of agriculture, by virtue and in exercise of the powers in them vested under the diseases of animals acts, 1894